



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
ENERGY STAR® QUALIFIED DISHWASHERS  
PARTNER RESOURCE GUIDE



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This Partner Resource Guide is designed to help you promote ENERGY STAR qualified dishwashers. Partners are free to use any of the text, charts, or images in Web sites, print advertisements, in-store promotional materials, and other marketing materials. The Guide is divided into two sections:

- Section I **CONSUMER INFORMATION** covers product advancements and best practices. It also illustrates ENERGY STAR savings over non-qualified units, older units, and washing by hand.
- Section II **MARKET INFORMATION** reports the number of old units still in use, savings assumptions, and criteria for ENERGY STAR qualified dishwashers.

## INTRODUCTION

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If you bought your dishwasher before 1994, it has washed 75,000 plates, 50,000 cups, 30,000 bowls, and 130,000 forks, spoons and knives. It's ready to retire. When you replace one of these old dishwashers with a new ENERGY STAR qualified model, you save \$40 a year on utility bills—and 8 gallons of water with every load of dishes.

## SECTION I: CONSUMER INFORMATION

### ENERGY STAR VS. STANDARD MODEL

The average household runs the dishwasher about 215 times a year. Choose an ENERGY STAR qualified model over a new standard model and save money, water, and the environment.



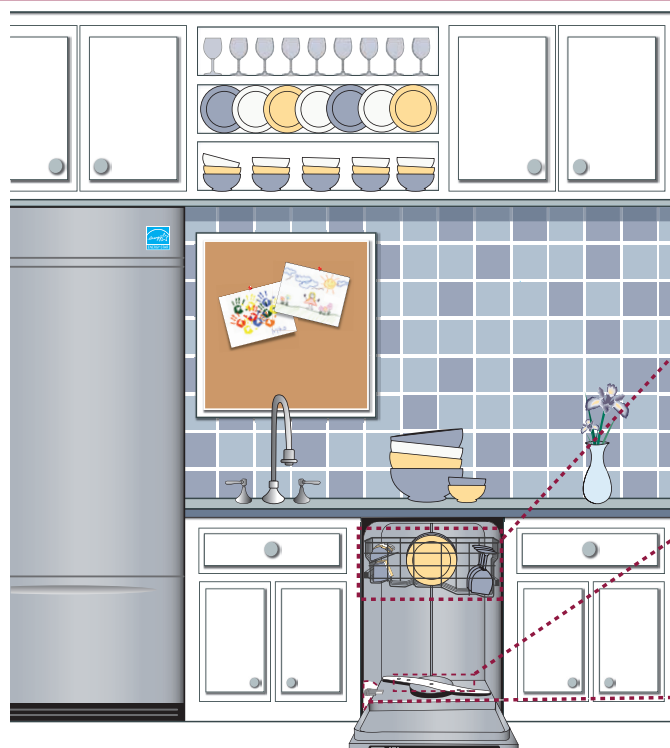
ENERGY STAR is a government-backed program that helps consumers identify the most energy-efficient products.

- **SAVE MONEY.** When it's time for a new dishwasher, choose an ENERGY STAR qualified model and you'll save about \$85 on your utility bills over the lifetime of the unit.
- **USE LESS WATER AND ENERGY.** ENERGY STAR qualified dishwashers use advanced water filtration and soil sensors to get your dishes clean while using less water and energy. Compared to a non-qualified model, you'll save 8 gallons of water per week; that's enough to brew 128 cups of coffee.
- **CLEAN UP MORE THAN THE DISHES.** Less energy means less pollution and greenhouse gases in the environment that contribute to global warming. Less water consumption helps protect our lakes, streams, and oceans.

### ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

Dishwasher technology has improved dramatically over the last decade. New ENERGY STAR qualified models include several innovations that significantly reduce energy and water consumption and improve performance.

#### TECHNOLOGY SAVES YOU MONEY



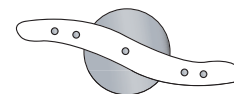
#### INNOVATIVE DISH RACK DESIGNS

maximize cleaning by strategically situating the dishes.



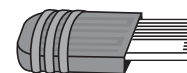
#### MORE EFFICIENT JETS

use less energy to spray detergent and water over the dishes when cleaning.



#### SOIL SENSORS

test how dirty the dishes are throughout the wash and adjust the cycle to achieve optimum cleaning with minimum water and energy use.

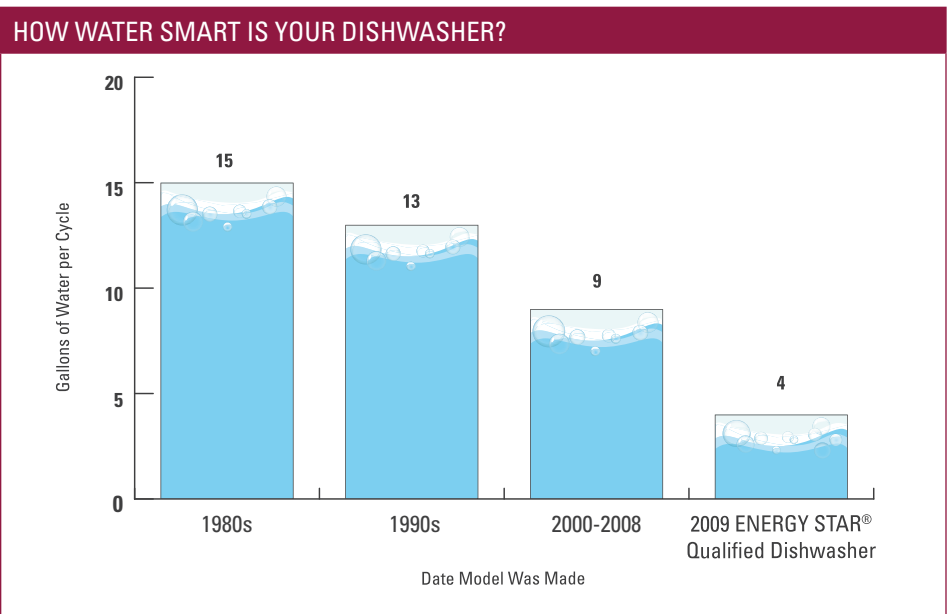
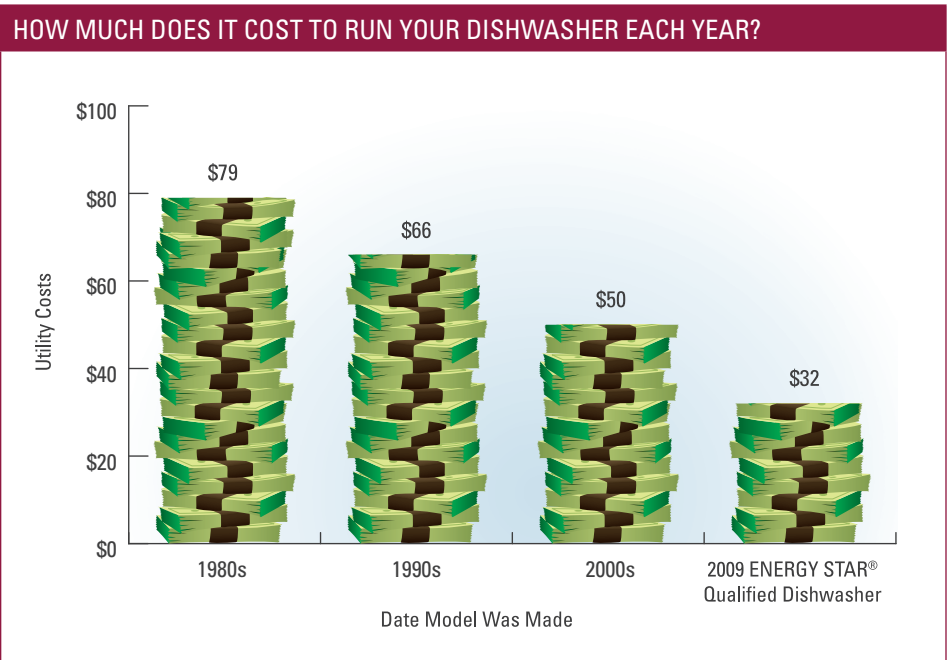


SECTION I: CONSUMER INFORMATION



IS IT TIME TO REPLACE YOUR OLD DISHWASHER?

A dishwasher made before 1994 costs an extra \$40 a year on your utility bills and wastes about 8 gallons of water per load compared to a new ENERGY STAR qualified model. Use the graphs below to learn about the operating costs and energy use of old dishwashers.





## SECTION I: CONSUMER INFORMATION

### DOES HAND WASHING SAVE MONEY?

Surprisingly, no. If you still wash your dishes by hand, you're wasting more than just time.

**SAVE MONEY.** Washing dishes in a new ENERGY STAR qualified dishwasher rather than hand washing can cut your utility bills by more than \$40 a year.

**SAVE TIME.** Instead of scrubbing, rinsing, and drying each dish, just scrape and load them all in an ENERGY STAR qualified dishwasher and press start. Using an ENERGY STAR qualified dishwasher can save you over 230 hours of personal time over the course of a year. That's almost 10 days!

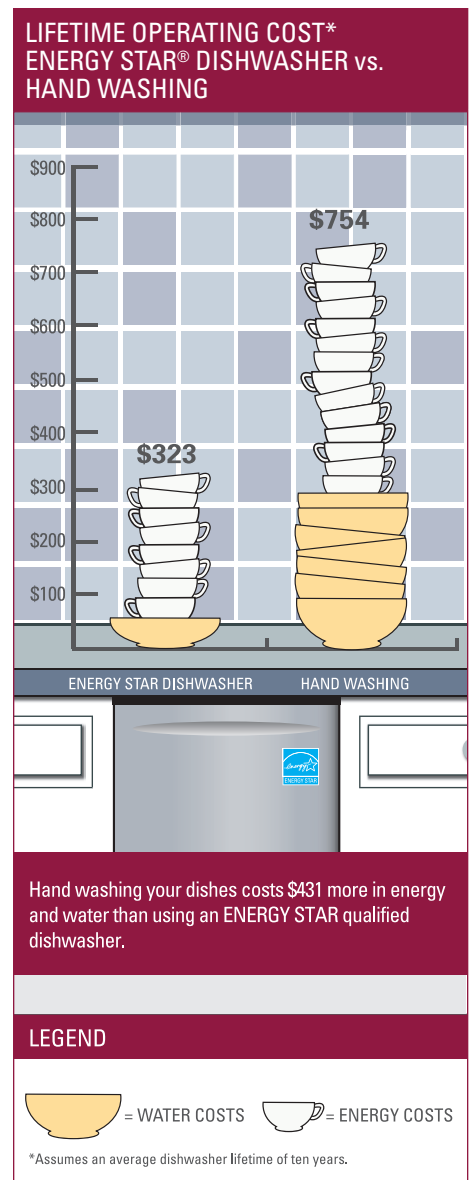
**GET BETTER CLEANING.** Many features in an ENERGY STAR qualified dishwasher result in better cleaning. For example, higher water temperatures allow for improved disinfection compared to hand washing.

**SAVE ENERGY AND WATER.** Thought you were efficient? A new ENERGY STAR qualified dishwasher uses less than half as much energy as washing dishes by hand and saves nearly 5,000 gallons of water a year!

### BEST PRACTICES

For maximum water and energy savings:

- **SCRAPE, DON'T RINSE.** Rinsing dishes can use up to 20 gallons of water before the dishes are even loaded. Save yourself the rinsing—just scrape food off dishes. ENERGY STAR qualified dishwashers and today's detergents are designed to do the cleaning so you don't have to. If your dirty dishes sit overnight, use your dishwasher's rinse feature. It uses a fraction of the water needed to hand rinse.
- **LOAD IT UP.** Dishwashers use about the same amount of energy and water regardless of the number of dishes inside, so run full loads whenever possible.
- **SKIP THE HEAT.** Use a rinse agent and select the no-heat drying option. It gives good drying results with less energy.



**Scrape  
Don't Rinse**

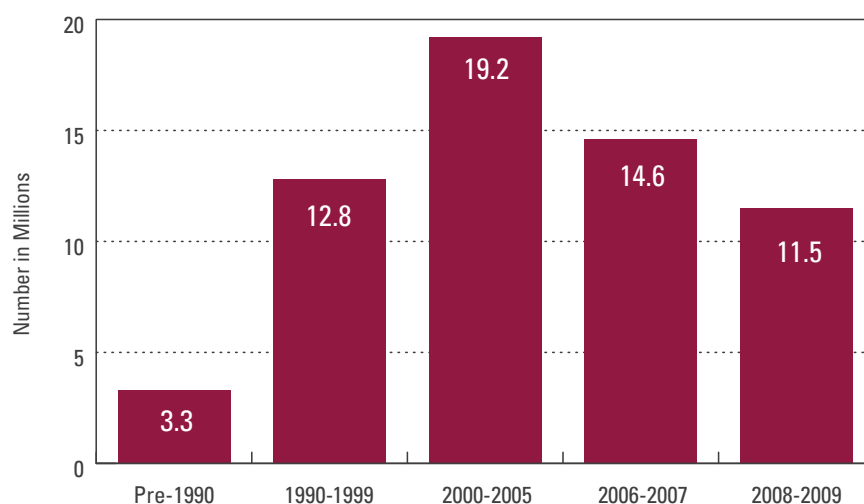
Save Water! According to ENERGY STAR®, rinsing can use up to 20 gallons of water.

## SECTION II: MARKET INFORMATION

### DID YOU KNOW?

The criteria change on August 11, 2009 included a water requirement for the first time, which enables ENERGY STAR to assure precise water savings in its marketing resources.

### NUMBER OF OLD DISHWASHERS IN THE U.S. (IN MILLIONS)



Source: Residential Energy Consumption Survey, Energy Information Administration, 2005. Assumes that the current age distribution of the national dishwasher stock is the same as the 2005 distribution.

### SAVINGS ASSUMPTIONS

- Average life = 10 years<sup>1</sup>
- Average cycles per year = 215
- ENERGY STAR price premium = \$30 – \$60
- Time to recover price premium = 3 – 6 years
- ENERGY STAR price range = \$340 – \$1,650<sup>2</sup>
- Standard dishwasher price range = \$220 – \$675<sup>3</sup>

### SAVINGS FROM REPLACING OLD DISHWASHERS

	PRE-1994	1994-2000	2001-2006
Annual Energy Bill Savings	\$32	\$15	\$13
Annual Water Bill Savings	\$11	\$7	\$5
Total Annual Utility Bill Savings	\$43	\$22	\$18

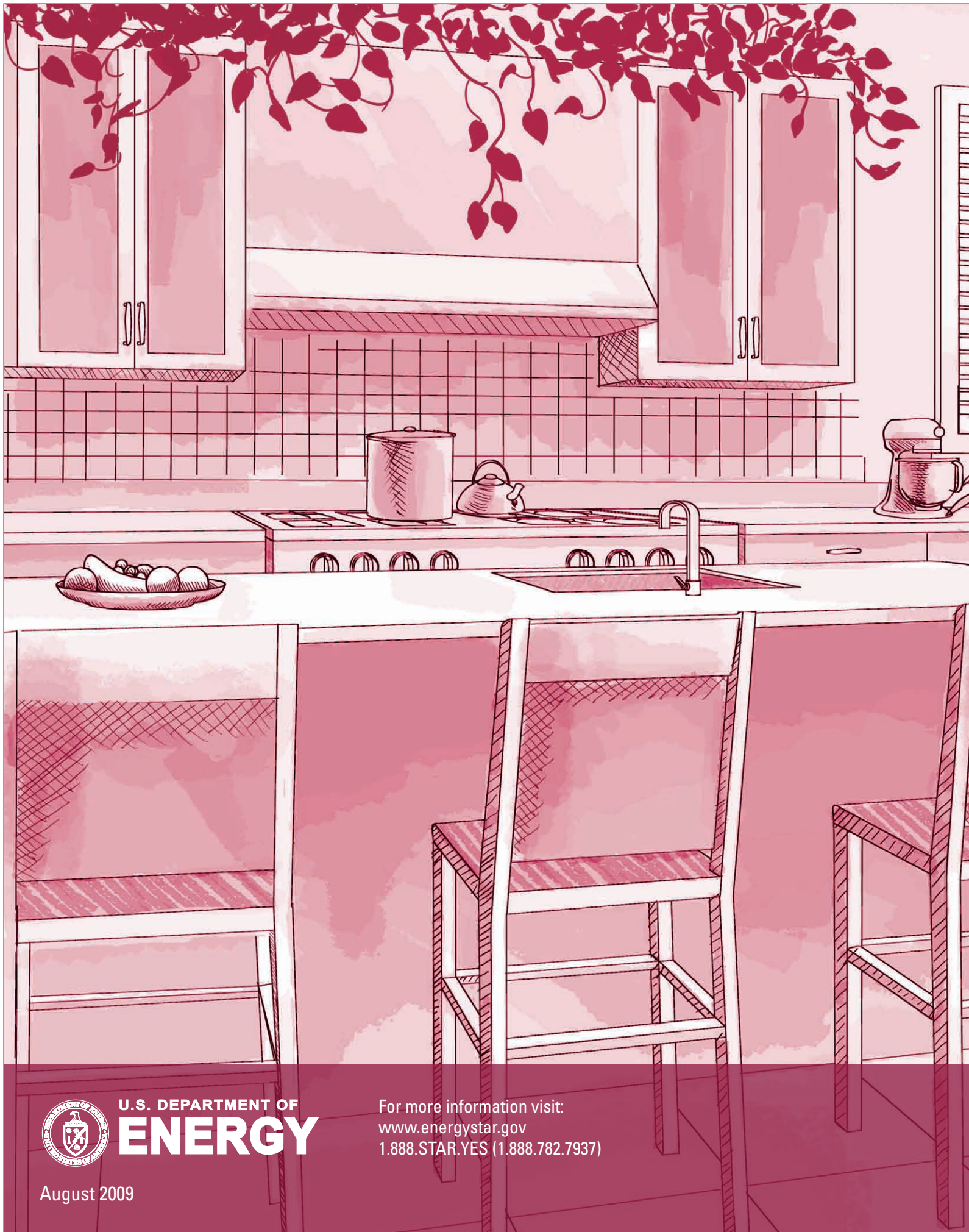
## SECTION II: MARKET INFORMATION

### ENERGY STAR CRITERIA

Dishwashers must use less than 324 kWh per year and less than 5.8 gallons of water per cycle to qualify for the ENERGY STAR label. This new criteria took effect August 11, 2009.

ENERGY STAR CRITERIA		
DISHWASHER TYPE	CURRENT CRITERIA EFFECTIVE 8/11/2009	FUTURE CRITERIA EFFECTIVE 7/1/2011
STANDARD	324 kWh/year 5.8 gallons per cycle	307 kWh/year 5.0 gallons per cycle
COMPACT	234 kWh/year 4.0 gallons per cycle	222 kWh/year 3.5 gallons per cycle

ENDNOTES
<p><sup>1</sup> "31<sup>st</sup> Annual Portrait of the U.S. Appliance Industry," <i>Appliance Magazine</i>, September 2008.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Based on data gathered by D&amp;R International from national retailer Web sites, 2009.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> Ibid.</p>



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

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